Concordia University

Faculty of Fine Arts Council

Minutes of the Meeting of February 18, 2000

Present: C. Jackson (Chair), G. Amantea, L. Blair, M. Bush, J. Cezar, M. Corwin, R. Ellias, A. Fairchild, K. Griffin, R. Hale, W. Krol, B. Layne, L. Lerner, J. Locke, E. Mongerson, K. O'Brien, S. Paikowsky, K. Perry, P. Regimbald, M. Reinhart, P. Rist, R. Tyrell

Absent with apologies:
S. Anastasiu, M. Bromley, J. Fowler, N. Helms, H. Johnson, K. Langshaw, M. Montanaro, D. Pariser, L. Peterson, L. Sharman, D. Vivian

Guests: E. Abitbol, K. Adams, M. Bobiy, J.-P. Duchesne, P. Muyal

1. Appointments to Fine Arts Faculty Council

Departmental representative:
Sandra Paikowsky, Department of Art History

Undergraduate Student representatives:
Julie Fowler
Marguerite Bromley
Tricia Johns
Vanessa Robinson
Sabrina Stea

MOTION: (Cezar, Krol)

"that the new appointments to Faculty Council be approved."

CARRIED.

2. Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2000

MOTION: (Mongerson, Locke)

"that the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2000 be approved with the following amendment:

- p.6, 3rd para., was amended to read, "K. Griffin asked L. Sharman what the scenario would be if funding was not approved for this programme by the Government and whether or not the first cuts would affect staff. L. Sharman replied that the first cuts would be applied to advertising."

CARRIED.

4. Business Arising

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

5. Chair's Remarks

Document (FFAC-00-02-18-D5) entitled *Priorities for our Future* from the Ministere de l'education was distributed. C. Jackson announced that the French version of the above-noted document (*Politiques des universites*) had been circulated in November 1999. The document circulated today is the final version. C. Jackson explained that the document clarifies the role that universities play apart from preparing students for the work force. The word "art" appears in the document which indicates a higher level of consciousness of the role of the arts. The Government intends to measure the performance of universities by developing indicators that will evaluate their quality and output. The Government plans to re-inject funds into University budgets, but universities will have to compete for the funding.

C. Jackson referred to the latest issue of Concordia's Thursday Report which gave an accounting of the recent discussions at the University with respect to the University's Master Space Plan. He was pleased to announce that a large sum of money ($10-12M) which was donated many years ago and had remained undesignated, was finally designated to Fine Arts who had been pivotal in acquiring these funds.

6. Question Period

K. Perry asked if any information was available regarding a general meeting on Space. E. Abitbol replied that details will only be available next Tuesday, February 22nd.

G. Amantea asked how much money is required for the Fine Arts building project to be underway. The Dean responded that the amount needed is approximately $60-70M.

P. Rist announced that a former Film Animation student, Torill Kove and a former animation teacher, Wendy Tilby, have been nominated for Oscars. E. Abitbol said that Public Relations is busily working on pieces for CBC, Le Devoir, La Presse, etc. to make this public knowledge.

M. Corwin also announced that Dean Jackson has been nominated for a Juno Award for best classical album, large ensemble, and Prof. Jeri Brown has been nominated for a Juno for her latest album for best vocal jazz album.

7. Update on Visual Arts Computer Facilities (J. Cezar)

C. Jackson announced that funds have been made available to invest in the small but efficient unit in the basement of the VA building. He asked Judith Cezar, the Manager of the Visual Arts Computer Facilities to give an account of what has recently transpired in the labs and what is to come.

J. Cezar reported that the Visual Arts computer facilities are growing rapidly. With the pending funding, three new areas will be developed: 1) an additional Mac lab, 2) a NT windows lab, and 3) a Digital Imaging lab. There are 22 full-time digital classes and 19 computer component classes requiring access to labs. There is also a project lab in VA 025 which is being developed for non-screen based work.

With respect to the SGI lab, Judith reported that a new Technician, John Mathais has recently been hired. John will eventually become the Webmaster for the Faculty of Fine Arts. He is a 3D artist and technician with many years of experience in animation and multimedia. He has worked with the National Film Board for the past seven years.

R. Hale asked if John will be the contact person for the McConnell project and pedagogy. J. Cezar replied that someone else is supposed to be hired who will be responsible for those areas.

S. Paikowsky stated that room VA 323 was supposed to be one of the University's "smart" classrooms, but the room remains unequipped for any sort of technology. While the computer labs are being taken care of, S. Paikowsky expressed her concern that other projects such as the "smart" classrooms are being abandoned. She asked J. Cezar when the project will be completed. J. Cezar replied that she has contacted IITS repeatedly for updates about this project. She discovered that Fine Arts had not been included in the original plans for "smart" classrooms hence the delay. She encouraged everyone to submit their concerns in writing to her. L. Lerner pointed out that this proves once again that Fine Arts should handle their own affairs related to audio visual and technological needs.

M. Corwin requested that information about seminars offered in the labs be sent to the Departments on the Loyola campus.

8. Task Force to review the status "Professor Emeritus" (FFAC-00-02-18-D2)

C. Jackson explained that Faculty Council has been asked to consider the recommendations of the Task Force to review the status "Professor Emeritus" and submit comments to the Senate Steering Committee.

P. Rist reported that there was some controversial discussion at the last Senate meeting regarding the recommendations of the Task Force, particularly about the idea of having two different levels/titles for retired professors. B. Layne reported that the Council of the School of Graduate Studies supported the recommendations set out by the Task Force. C. Jackson asked Faculty Council for input on the subject.

R. Hale mentioned that individuals who apply for Professor Emeritus status did not go through the Tenure Committee, therefore, in some ways, this process is far removed from the Tenure process.

C. Jackson pointed out that going from Professor to Professor Emeritus is automatic, but the rank of Full Professor is not easily obtained. This is a process apart from the structure of the Collective Agreement. It is not a promotion and cannot be construed as such.

P. Rist reported that one of the questions raised at Senate was that procedures for becoming a Full Professor have changed, therefore the procedures for Professor Emeritus can change. He does not support the recommendation suggesting different titles for Professor Emeritus because he pointed out that a modest Professor may never apply for Professor Emeritus status.

R. Hale explained that increasing the number of Professors Emeritus can be a positive direction for the enhancement of external relations for the Faculty of Fine Arts. It can also help the Faculty in attaining equal billing for research activities.

There was no consensus reached by Fine Arts Faculty Council on the recommendations made by the Task Force.

9. General Education Requirement (FFAC-00-02-18-D3)

A. Fairchild requested that discussion of this item be postponed until further information becomes available.

10. Undergraduate Curriculum Report # 63 (FFAC-00-02-18-D4)

C. Jackson asked M. Corwin to present the curriculum changes contained in Undergraduate Curriculum Report #63 submitted to Faculty Council for approval.

M. Corwin summarized the curriculum changes presented for the Department of Music. The Music Department is proposing to formalize the area of electroacoustics by introducing a Major and Minor in Electroacoustics Studies. The Department is already accommodating approximately 120 students interested in the Electroacoustics area, indicating a strong demand for this programme and the potential for growth in the future as multimedia programmes develop. There are no similar porgrammes offered in Quebec housed in a Faculty of Fine Arts. The resources required to offer these programmes are available for the projected number of enrolments, but space and equipment will eventually be required.

E. Mongerson asked if the programmes can still be offered without additional space. M. Corwin answered that the courses have been offered for the past ten years and students have been accommodated in small spaces and studios. Therefore, the programme can be offered without additional space to a certain degree.

M. Corwin added that there is potential for enrolment in this programme to double. He intends to apply to the Government for funding under its New Technologies funding programme.

MOTION: (Blair, Tyrell)

"that the curriculum changes contained in Curriculum Report # 63 be approved."

CARRIED.

11. Fine Arts representative on the Advisory Search Committee for Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations and Secretary-General

The following appointment to the Search Committee for Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations and Secretary-General was approved:

Kathleen Perry, Associate Dean

12. Other

J. Locke announced that Michael Di Grappa is officially the new Vice-Rector, Services, effective March 15, 2000.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Submitted by:

Lynda Hyette
Interim Assistant to the Dean
March 5, 2000

L. Hyette